The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) may support farmers and other beneficiaries investing in the production of renewable energy. In order to comply with the different sets of rules, a distinction needs to be made between (i) support for energy production for farmers’ own use on their agricultural holdings (on-farm) and (ii) support for energy production for farmers and other beneficiaries to be used outside agriculture or sold on the market (off-farm). Both types of support are possible in the 2014-2022 period as well as in the future Common Agricultural Policy Strategic Plans for 2023-2027.\(^1\)

Support for energy production for farmers’ own use may take place, possibly as part of a project with other investments on the farm, in accordance with the rules for farm investment support. Support for energy production to be used outside agriculture or to be sold on the market must be in accordance with the applicable state aid rules, even if the beneficiary is a farmer.

The Commission has currently no plans of proposing amendments to the applicable rules in this regard.

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\(^1\) [https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/common-agricultural-policy/cap-overview/new-cap-2023-27_en#:~:text=The%20new%20common%20agricultural%20policy%20will%20be%20key%20to%20securing,(CAP)%20was%20formally%20adopted](https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/common-agricultural-policy/cap-overview/new-cap-2023-27_en#:~:text=The%20new%20common%20agricultural%20policy%20will%20be%20key%20to%20securing,(CAP)%20was%20formally%20adopted)